

PORTAGE LAKE HARBOR COMMISSION

March 21, 2019

The meeting was called to order by Jim Mrozinski at 7:05pm. Present were Denny Blue, Steve Brooks, and Jim Simons and guest Arnie Johnson.

The minutes of the January 17, 2019 meeting were approved with a motion by Blue and second by Brooks, with all voting in favor.

Simons reported that the contract for the Lake Manager has been approved. The permits have been submitted, for approval, to the DNR and they will be issued after the contract is signed. Simons said that the committee is looking at doing the water quality testing every other year since our results have been so good in the past.

Simons gave a brief overview of what the Lake Manager does for Onekama and Portage Lake.

Jim also handed out an article, that was in the Michigan Outdoor News, about a group that has been formed by hunting and fishing groups to keep Asian carp out of the Great Lakes. The group is called the Great Lakes conservation Coalition. Michigan United Conservation Clubs is a member of this group.

Brooks reported that he has looked into installing life ring stations on our piers. Frankfort installed ring stations on their piers 18 years ago after a drowning. He also spoke to representatives in St. Joseph, Charlevoix and Kenosha, Wisconsin who have also installed ring stations on their piers.

Steve spoke to BMC Adam Fredrickson-Officer in Charge, Coast Guard Station Manistee who suggested that the life ring rope should be 90 feet long. He also contacted Christopher Schropp-Chief, Construction and O&M Branch Lake Michigan Area Office, Grand Haven who indicated the Corps had no issues with the installation of ring stations but there would be paperwork to be filled out and

submitted to the Corps. Solar lighting on top of the frame is also being considered.

Brooks also contacted manufactures and suppliers to get some prices. At the present time each station would cost between \$500 and \$600 each.

Blue reported that the Michigan Port Collaborative has completed Onekama's template and approved it. A meeting on April 18, 2019, being held at the Radisson Hotel in Lansing, will discuss the template for the Economic Sustainability of the 22 ports that completed the study. Invited to this meeting are all Legislatures, heads for sources of funding, and representatives of all 22 ports. The topic will be the use of the template in regards to future funding for these ports. Representatives from Onekama are planning to attend.

Mrozinski reported that construction of our channel will continue as soon as the ice is off of the piers. He also handed out "The Monthly Bulletin of Lake Levels for the Great Lakes" compiled by the Corps of Engineers, and a notice about the 2019 Shallow Draft/Recreational Harbor Stakeholder meeting scheduled for April 9, 2019. Several members of the Harbor Commission plan to attend.

New business

Discussion.....none

Public comment....none

Next meeting is scheduled for May 16, 2019

Meeting adjourned at 8:12PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Jim Simons